



BOROUGH OF LANSDOWNE
DELAWARE COUNTY
23-412

LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND
EXAMINATION REPORT

FOR THE TWO YEARS ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2008

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BOROUGH OF LANSDOWNE
DELAWARE COUNTY
LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND
BACKGROUND
FOR THE TWO YEARS ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2008

Background

The Liquid Fuels Tax Municipal Allocation Law, Title 72 P.S. § 2615.5, provides municipalities other than counties (townships, boroughs, cities, towns, home rule, and optional plan governments) with an annual allocation of liquid fuels taxes from the state's Motor License Fund to be used for the maintenance and repair of streets, roads, and bridges for which the municipality is responsible. The allocation of these funds to municipalities is based: (1) 50 percent on the municipality's proportion of local road mileage to the total local road mileage in the state, and (2) 50 percent on the proportion of a municipality's population to the total population in the state.

The Vehicle Code, Title 75 P.S. § 9511, provides municipalities with annual maintenance payments to be received from the Motor License Fund for functionally local highways that were transferred to a municipality from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Each municipality must deposit the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund money and annual maintenance payments that it receives into a special fund called the Municipal Liquid Fuels Tax Fund or State Fund. A municipality may not deposit any other monies into this fund except when the municipality does not have enough money in the special fund to meet the payments called for by its current annual budget for road and bridge purposes. In this case, the municipality may borrow money or transfer money from its General Fund to its Liquid Fuels Tax Fund.

The Department of Transportation has been given the regulatory authority for the administration of these funds. To qualify for its annual allocation, each municipality shall submit the following documents and information to the Department of Transportation:

1. Evidence that the treasurer is bonded in accordance with the law, or that its treasurer is a bank requiring no bond by January 31 of each year.
2. A report indicating the manner in which its liquid fuels tax allocation was expended in the previous year (Form MS-965) by January 31 of each year.
3. A report of elected and appointed officials by January 31 of each year.
4. A Survey of Financial Condition by March 15 of each year.

Department of Transportation *Publication 9* contains the policies and procedures that govern the use of Liquid Fuels Tax Fund money. However, if there is a difference between *Publication 9* and any legislation, the legislation shall govern.



Independent Auditor's Report

The Honorable Allen D. Biehler, P.E.
Secretary
Department of Transportation
Harrisburg, PA 17120

We examined the accompanying Forms MS-965 With Adjustments for the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund of the Borough of Lansdowne, Delaware County, for the two years ended December 31, 2008. The municipality's management is responsible for the Forms MS-965. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Forms MS-965 With Adjustments based on our examination.

Except as discussed in the fifth paragraph, our examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the standards applicable to attestation engagements contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. An examination includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the Borough of Lansdowne, Delaware County's Forms MS-965 for the two years ended December 31, 2008 and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our examination provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

We are mandated by Section 403 of *The Fiscal Code*, 72 P.S. § 403, to audit each municipality's Liquid Fuels Tax Fund to ensure that funds received are expended in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States include attestation engagements as a separate type of audit. An attestation engagement performed pursuant to *Government Auditing Standards* involves additional standards that exceed the standards provided by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Accordingly, this attestation engagement complies with both *Government Auditing Standards* and Section 403 of *The Fiscal Code*.

As described in Note 4, the adjustments included on the Forms MS-965 With Adjustments are made by the Department of the Auditor General.

Independent Auditor's Report (Continued)

We were unable to examine the images of the back of the canceled checks from the borough's financial institution because the borough failed to obtain them from its financial institution. Consequently we were unable to perform procedures to determine whether disbursements were made in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

In our opinion, except for the effects of such adjustments, if any, as might have been determined to be necessary had we been able to examine an image of the back of the canceled checks, the Forms MS-965 With Adjustments present, in all material respects, the information required by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation for the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund of the Borough of Lansdowne, Delaware County, for the two years ended December 31, 2008, in conformity with the criteria set forth in Note 1.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we are required to report findings of significant deficiencies in internal control, violations of provisions of contracts or grant agreements, and abuse that are material to the Forms MS-965 and any fraud and illegal acts that are more than inconsequential that come to our attention during our examination. We are also required to obtain the views of management on those matters. We performed our examination to express an opinion on whether the Forms MS-965 are presented in accordance with the criteria described above and not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the internal control over reporting on the Forms MS-965 or on compliance and other matters; accordingly, we express no such opinions.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the Borough of Lansdowne, Delaware County's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report data reliably in accordance with the applicable criteria such that there is more than a remote likelihood that a misstatement of the Borough of Lansdowne, Delaware County's Forms MS-965 that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by the Borough of Lansdowne, Delaware County's internal control. We consider the deficiencies described in the findings below to be significant deficiencies in internal control over reporting on the Forms MS-965:

- Electronic Imaging Of Canceled Checks From The Bank Did Not Include The Back Of The Checks.
- Untimely Deposit Of Allocation.

Independent Auditor's Report (Continued)

A material weakness is a significant deficiency or combination of significant deficiencies that results in more than a remote likelihood that a material misstatement of the Forms MS-965 will not be prevented or detected by the Borough of Lansdowne, Delaware County's internal control. Our consideration of the internal control over reporting on the Forms MS-965 would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control that might be significant deficiencies and, accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all significant deficiencies that are also considered to be material weaknesses. However, of the significant deficiencies described above, we consider the first bulleted deficiency to be a material weakness.

The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*. However, we did note an other matter that, while not required to be included in this report by *Government Auditing Standards*, has been included in the finding below:

- Late Receipt Of Allocation.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation and the management of the Borough of Lansdowne, Delaware County, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

August 12, 2009

JACK WAGNER
Auditor General



BOROUGH OF LANSDOWNE
 DELAWARE COUNTY
 LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND
 2007 FORM MS-965 – SECTION 1
 WITH ADJUSTMENTS

<u>Expenditure Summary</u>	<u>Reported</u>	<u>Adjustments</u>	<u>Adjusted Amount</u>
Major equipment purchases	\$ 86,519.24	\$ -	\$ 86,519.24
Minor equipment purchases	-	-	-
Computer/Computer related training	-	-	-
Agility projects	-	-	-
Cleaning streets and gutters	-	-	-
Winter maintenance services	-	-	-
Traffic control devices	2,106.50	-	2,106.50
Street lighting	-	-	-
Storm sewers and drains	26,479.50	-	26,479.50
Repairs of tools and machinery	-	-	-
Maintenance and repair of roads and bridges	52,642.70	-	52,642.70
Highway construction and rebuilding projects	148,146.70	-	148,146.70
Miscellaneous	-	-	-
 Total (To Section 2, Line 5)	 <u>\$ 315,894.64</u>	 <u>\$ -</u>	 <u>\$ 315,894.64</u>

Notes to Forms MS-965 With Adjustments are an integral part of this report.

BOROUGH OF LANSDOWNE
 DELAWARE COUNTY
 LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND
 2007 FORM MS-965 – SECTION 2
 WITH ADJUSTMENTS

<u>Fund Balance</u>	<u>Reported</u>	<u>Adjustments (Note 4)</u>	<u>Adjusted Amount</u>
1. Balance, January 1, 2007	\$ 243,900.57	\$ (3.00)	\$ 243,897.57
Receipts:			
2. State allocation	180,554.88	-	180,554.88
2a. Turnback allocation	-	-	-
2b. Interest on investments (Note 3)	1,717.97	11,175.24	12,893.21
2c. Miscellaneous (Note 5)	<u>53,850.00</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>53,850.00</u>
3. Total receipts	<u>236,122.85</u>	<u>11,175.24</u>	<u>247,298.09</u>
4. Total funds available	<u>480,023.42</u>	<u>11,172.24</u>	<u>491,195.66</u>
5. Expenditures (Section 1)	<u>315,894.64</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>315,894.64</u>
6. Balance, December 31, 2007	<u><u>\$ 164,128.78</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 11,172.24</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 175,301.02</u></u>

Notes to Forms MS-965 With Adjustments are an integral part of this report.

BOROUGH OF LANSDOWNE
 DELAWARE COUNTY
 LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND
 2007 FORM MS-965 – SECTION 3
 WITH ADJUSTMENTS

<u>Equipment Balance</u>	<u>Reported</u>	<u>Adjustments (Note 4)</u>	<u>Adjusted Amount</u>
1. Prior year equipment balance	\$ 92,085.93	\$ 2,113.55	\$ 94,199.48
2. Add: Current year equipment allocation (20% of Lines 2 + 2a, Section 2)	36,110.98	-	36,110.98
3. PENNDOT approved adjustments	-	-	-
4. Total funds available for equipment acquisition	128,196.91	2,113.55	130,310.46
5. Less: Major equipment expenditures	86,519.24	-	86,519.24
6. Remainder	<u>41,677.67</u>	<u>2,113.55</u>	<u>43,791.22</u>
7. Equipment balance available for subsequent year (Lesser of Line 6 or Section 2 balance, but not less than zero)	<u>\$ 41,677.67</u>	<u>\$ 2,113.55</u>	<u>\$ 43,791.22</u>

Notes to Forms MS-965 With Adjustments are an integral part of this report.

BOROUGH OF LANSDOWNE
 DELAWARE COUNTY
 LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND
 2008 FORM MS-965 – SECTION 1
 WITH ADJUSTMENTS

<u>Expenditure Summary</u>	<u>Reported</u>	<u>Adjustments</u>	<u>Adjusted Amount</u>
Major equipment purchases	\$ 43,434.85	\$ -	\$ 43,434.85
Minor equipment purchases	-	-	-
Computer/Computer related training	-	-	-
Agility projects	-	-	-
Cleaning streets and gutters	-	-	-
Winter maintenance services	-	-	-
Traffic control devices	7,122.07	-	7,122.07
Street lighting	-	-	-
Storm sewers and drains	9,360.38	-	9,360.38
Repairs of tools and machinery	-	-	-
Maintenance and repair of roads and bridges	32,744.20	-	32,744.20
Highway construction and rebuilding projects	212,404.06	-	212,404.06
Miscellaneous	-	-	-
 Total (To Section 2, Line 5)	 <u>\$ 305,065.56</u>	 <u>\$ -</u>	 <u>\$ 305,065.56</u>

Notes to Forms MS-965 With Adjustments are an integral part of this report.

BOROUGH OF LANSDOWNE
 DELAWARE COUNTY
 LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND
 2008 FORM MS-965 – SECTION 2
 WITH ADJUSTMENTS

<u>Fund Balance</u>	<u>Reported</u>	<u>Adjustments (Note 4)</u>	<u>Adjusted Amount</u>
1. Balance, January 1, 2008	\$ 164,128.78	\$ 11,172.24	\$ 175,301.02
Receipts:			
2. State allocation	199,016.77	-	199,016.77
2a. Turnback allocation	-	-	-
2b. Interest on investments (Note 3)	5,532.61	(307.16)	5,225.45
2c. Miscellaneous (Note 5)	32,710.00	-	32,710.00
3. Total receipts	<u>237,259.38</u>	<u>(307.16)</u>	<u>236,952.22</u>
4. Total funds available	<u>401,388.16</u>	<u>10,865.08</u>	<u>412,253.24</u>
5. Expenditures (Section 1)	<u>305,065.56</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>305,065.56</u>
6. Balance, December 31, 2008	<u><u>\$ 96,322.60</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 10,865.08</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 107,187.68</u></u>

Notes to Forms MS-965 With Adjustments are an integral part of this report.

BOROUGH OF LANSDOWNE
 DELAWARE COUNTY
 LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND
 2008 FORM MS-965 – SECTION 3
 WITH ADJUSTMENTS

<u>Equipment Balance</u>	<u>Reported</u>	<u>Adjustments (Note 4)</u>	<u>Adjusted Amount</u>
1. Prior year equipment balance	\$ 41,677.67	\$ 2,113.55	\$ 43,791.22
2. Add: Current year equipment allocation (20% of Lines 2 + 2a, Section 2)	39,803.35	-	39,803.35
3. PENNDOT approved adjustments	-	-	-
4. Total funds available for equipment acquisition	81,481.02	2,113.55	83,594.57
5. Less: Major equipment expenditures	43,434.85	-	43,434.85
6. Remainder	<u>38,046.17</u>	<u>2,113.55</u>	<u>40,159.72</u>
7. Equipment balance available for subsequent year (Lesser of Line 6 or Section 2 balance, but not less than zero)	<u>\$ 38,046.17</u>	<u>\$ 2,113.55</u>	<u>\$ 40,159.72</u>

Notes to Forms MS-965 With Adjustments are an integral part of this report.

BOROUGH OF LANSDOWNE
DELAWARE COUNTY
LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND
NOTES TO FORMS MS-965 WITH ADJUSTMENTS
FOR THE TWO YEARS ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2008

1. Criteria

Section 1

This section of Form MS-965 With Adjustments provides a summary of Liquid Fuels Tax Fund expenditures by category. Categories requiring explanation include:

- Major equipment purchases are purchases of road machinery and road equipment that cost in excess of \$4,000.00.
- Minor equipment purchases are purchases of road machinery and road equipment that cost \$4,000.00 or less.
- Agility projects are exchanges of services with the Department of Transportation.

Section 2

This section of Form MS-965 With Adjustments provides information on the fund balance. Categories requiring explanation include:

- The state allocation is generally received from the Department of Transportation during the first week in April of each year. The amount the municipality receives is based half on its population and half on its road mileage.
- The turnback allocation is generally received from the Department of Transportation during the first week in April of each year. A municipality receives a yearly turnback allocation based on road mileage for all roads that were transferred to the municipality from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania through the Highway Transfer Program.
- Expenditures include the total transferred from Section 1.

Section 3

This section of Form MS-965 With Adjustments determines if the municipality expended Liquid Fuels Tax Fund money in excess of the permissible amount for equipment and the balance that the municipality may carry forward for the purchase of equipment to the subsequent year.

BOROUGH OF LANSDOWNE
DELAWARE COUNTY
LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND
NOTES TO FORMS MS-965 WITH ADJUSTMENTS
FOR THE TWO YEARS ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2008

1. Criteria (Continued)

Section 3 (Continued)

Department of Transportation *Publication 9* requires that the amount expended for equipment purchases in a given year not exceed the sum of the equipment balance carried forward from the previous year and 20 percent of the current year's Liquid Fuels Tax Fund allocation and, if applicable, 20 percent of the turnback allocation plus other Department of Transportation approved adjustments.

If the municipality spent in excess of the amount listed on Line 4, the excess must be reimbursed to the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund.

The equipment balance to be carried forward for the subsequent year is the lesser of the amount on Line 6 or the ending fund balance on Line 6 of Section 2, but not less than zero.

Basis Of Presentation

The financial activities of the municipality are accounted for in separate funds. The Liquid Fuels Tax Fund is used to account for state aid revenues from the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation used primarily for building and improving local roads and bridges. The Forms MS-965 have been prepared in accordance with reporting requirements prescribed by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation as a result of the Fuels Tax Act 655, dated 1956 and as amended, which does not constitute a complete presentation of the entity's assets, liabilities, expenses, and fund balance. Accordingly, the presentation of Forms MS-965 With Adjustments is restricted to the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund, which represents a segment of the entity.

Basis Of Accounting

The accompanying Forms MS-965 With Adjustments are prepared in accordance with reporting requirements prescribed by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation. Under this method, revenues are recognized when received and expenditures are recorded when paid.

BOROUGH OF LANSDOWNE
DELAWARE COUNTY
LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND
NOTES TO FORMS MS-965 WITH ADJUSTMENTS
FOR THE TWO YEARS ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2008

1. Criteria (Continued)

General Fixed Assets

General fixed assets are recognized as expenditures at the time of purchase. No depreciation has been provided on the heavy equipment used to maintain and repair roads and bridges.

2. Deposits

The Borough Code, Title 53 P.S § 46316, authorizes the borough to deposit its funds in the following:

- Deposits in savings accounts or time deposits, other than certificates of deposit or share accounts of institutions having their principal place of business in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) or other like insurance. For any amount above the insured maximum, the depository shall pledge approved collateral.
- Certificates of deposit purchased from institutions insured by the FDIC or other like insurance to the extent that such accounts are so insured. For any amounts in excess of the insured maximum, such deposits shall be collateralized by a pledge or assignment of assets. Certificates of deposit may not exceed 20 percent of a bank's total capital surplus or 20 percent of a savings and loan's or savings bank's assets minus liabilities.

Deposits consist of receipts and deposits in financial institutions. Pennsylvania statutes require all deposits to be insured and, for any amount above the insured maximum, to be secured with approved collateral as defined.

There were no deposits exposed to custodial credit risk as of December 31, 2008. Custodial credit risk, as defined by GASB No. 40, includes deposits that are not covered by depository insurance and the deposits are uncollateralized, collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution, or collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution's trust department or agent but not in the municipality's name.

BOROUGH OF LANSDOWNE
DELAWARE COUNTY
LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND
NOTES TO FORMS MS-965 WITH ADJUSTMENTS
FOR THE TWO YEARS ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2008

2. Deposits (Continued)

Fund Balance

The fund balance as of December 31, 2008 consists of the following:

Cash	<u>\$107,187.68</u>
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3. Interest On Investments

Our examination disclosed that the municipality deposited idle liquid fuels tax money in an interest-bearing account which earned \$12,893.21 during 2007, and \$5,225.45 during 2008, thus providing additional funds for road maintenance and repairs.

4. Adjustments

2007 - Section 2

An adjustment of \$(3.00) was made to "Balance, January 1, 2007" because an incorrect fund balance was reported.

An adjustment of \$11,175.24 was made to "Interest on investments" because interest earnings were understated.

2007 - Section 3

An adjustment of \$2,113.55 was made to "Prior year equipment balance" because an incorrect equipment balance was carried forward.

2008 - Section 2

An adjustment of \$11,172.24 was made to "Balance, January 1, 2008" to reflect the adjustments made in 2007 - Section 2.

An adjustment of \$(307.16) was made to "Interest on investments" because interest earnings were overstated.

BOROUGH OF LANSDOWNE
 DELAWARE COUNTY
 LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND
 NOTES TO FORMS MS-965 WITH ADJUSTMENTS
 FOR THE TWO YEARS ENDED
 DECEMBER 31, 2008

4. Adjustments (Continued)

2008 - Section 3

An adjustment of \$2,113.55 was made to “Prior year equipment balance” to reflect the adjustment made in 2007 - Section 3.

5. Miscellaneous Receipts

The following miscellaneous receipts were deposited into the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund during the examination period:

<u>Source</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>
General Fund	Reimbursement for road paving	\$53,850.00	\$24,019.00
General Fund	Reimbursement for road paving	-	7,637.50
-	Voided check (Note 7)	-	1,053.50
Totals		<u>\$53,850.00</u>	<u>\$32,710.00</u>

6. Bank Loan

On August 22, 2003, the municipality borrowed \$200,000.00 from PNC Bank to purchase two trucks, three spreaders, and four plows. The term of the loan was for five years at an interest rate of 2.63 percent. Principal and interest payments of \$43,259.62 are due annually. In prior examination periods the borough paid principal of \$76,849.45 and interest of \$9,669.79 from the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund.

During the current examination period the municipality paid principal of \$123,150.55 and interest of \$6,803.54 from the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund. These amounts are reflected in major equipment purchases on the 2007 and 2008 Forms MS-965. The loan was paid-in-full on October 28, 2008.

BOROUGH OF LANSDOWNE
DELAWARE COUNTY
LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND
NOTES TO FORMS MS-965 WITH ADJUSTMENTS
FOR THE TWO YEARS ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2008

7. Voided Check

On June 8, 2007, the municipality issued check No. 1657 to a vendor for \$1,053.50 from its Liquid Fuels Tax Fund. On June 30, 2008 the municipality voided the check and added it back to its Liquid Fuels Tax Fund balance because the check was never cashed.

BOROUGH OF LANSDOWNE
DELAWARE COUNTY
LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND
FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
FOR THE TWO YEARS ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2008

Finding No. 1 - Electronic Imaging Of Canceled Checks From The Bank Did Not Include
The Back Of The Checks

Our examination disclosed that the imaging of canceled checks from the bank for the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund account was not acceptable because the bank provides only an image of the front side of the canceled checks. For us to properly complete our examination testing, we have to examine the front and the back of the canceled checks. Because the tests of disbursements was limited, we had to qualify our opinion as stated in the Independent Auditor's Report.

Good internal controls and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Management Directive 210.11, dated June 16, 1997, require that imaging systems comply with the provisions of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) procedures for record keeping with electronic imaging. To be acceptable, the documents provided by the system must meet IRS procedures governing size, content, format, and pattern. Those procedures require that all images produced by the imaging system exhibit a high degree of legibility and readability when displayed on paper. Legibility includes the ability to identify all letters and numerals positively and quickly. Readability includes the ability to recognize a group of letters or numerals as words or completed numbers. Imaged documents must include the front and back of a document in which both the front and back are used.

Further, good internal controls ensure that by having a municipal official review the front and back of the canceled checks, any errors or irregularities can be detected on a timely basis.

Without this control, the potential exists for errors or irregularities to go undetected for long periods of time.

Recommendations

We recommend that the municipal officials obtain images of the front and back of canceled checks in accordance with Directive 210.11. Additionally, municipal officials should review the front and back of each canceled check for any errors or irregularities.

We further recommend that, if the municipality's financial institution's check imaging process does not comply with Directive 210.11, original documentation must be obtained.

BOROUGH OF LANSDOWNE
DELAWARE COUNTY
LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND
FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
FOR THE TWO YEARS ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2008

Finding No. 1 - Electronic Imaging Of Canceled Checks From The Bank Did Not Include
The Back Of The Checks (Continued)

Management's Response

The municipal officials stated:

Management concurs with the recommendation and will take steps to obtain images of both fronts and backs of checks.

Auditor's Conclusion

During our next examination we will determine if the municipality complied with our recommendations.

BOROUGH OF LANSDOWNE
DELAWARE COUNTY
LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND
FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
FOR THE TWO YEARS ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2008

Finding No. 2 - Untimely Deposit Of Allocation

Our examination disclosed that the 2008 Liquid Fuels Tax Fund allocation, which was received on July 14, 2008, was not deposited into the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund until October 2, 2008.

Good internal control procedures require that all funds received be deposited immediately upon receipt. The failure to follow this procedure increases the risk that errors and irregularities may occur and remain undetected. Additionally, had the allocation been deposited in a timely manner, money may have been available for investment, potentially earning interest income which could have been used for road maintenance and repairs.

Recommendations

We recommend that in the future, the municipality deposit all allocations immediately upon receipt.

We further recommend that the municipal officials consider using the electronic transfer of funds offered by the Department of Transportation.

Management's Response

The municipal officials stated:

Management concurs with the recommendation and shall take steps to implement electronic deposit of state aid funding directly to liquid fuels bank account.

Auditor's Conclusion

During our next examination we will determine if the municipality complied with our recommendations.

BOROUGH OF LANSDOWNE
DELAWARE COUNTY
LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND
FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
FOR THE TWO YEARS ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2008

Finding No. 3 - Late Receipt Of Allocation

Our examination disclosed that the 2008 Liquid Fuels Tax Fund allocation, which should have been distributed during the first week of April of that year, was not received until July 14, 2008, because the municipality failed to comply with the Department of Transportation's Regulation 449.12, which requires the timely filing of particular documents and information, among them:

- Evidence that its treasurer is bonded in accordance with the law or that its treasurer is a bank requiring no bond.
- A report indicating the manner in which its Liquid Fuels Tax Fund was expended in the preceding year.
- Survey of financial condition.
- Roster of municipal officials.

Because the municipality failed to file documents and information timely as noted above, the municipality did not have use of the allocation for more than three months. Furthermore, had the allocation been received timely, money may have been available for investment purposes, potentially earning interest income which could have been used for road maintenance and repairs.

Recommendation

We recommend that, in the future, the municipality comply with the Department of Transportation's Regulation 449.12 to ensure that the allocations are received during the first week in April as outlined above.

BOROUGH OF LANSDOWNE
DELAWARE COUNTY
LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND
FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
FOR THE TWO YEARS ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2008

Finding No. 3 - Late Receipt Of Allocation (Continued)

Management's Response

The municipal officials stated:

Management concurs with the recommendation. Late receipt of allocation resulted from untimely submission of MS-965 report due to turnover in personnel. Corrective action has been taken to ensure that MS-965 forms are submitted by January 31st of each year.

Auditor's Conclusion

During our next examination we will determine if the municipality complied with our recommendation.

BOROUGH OF LANSDOWNE
DELAWARE COUNTY
LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND
COMMENT
FOR THE TWO YEARS ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2008

Comment - Summary Of Prior Examination Recommendations

In our prior report we recommended:

- That the municipality ensure that its Forms MS-965 are complete and accurate.
- That the borough officials reassess their fiscal policy and consider investing money in excess of current needs in investments outlined in Section 1316 of *The Borough Code* as published by the Local Government Commission.

During our current examination we noted that the municipality complied with our recommendations.

BOROUGH OF LANSDOWNE
DELAWARE COUNTY
LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND
SUMMARY OF EXIT CONFERENCE
FOR THE TWO YEARS ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2008

An exit conference was held August 12, 2009. Those participating were:

BOROUGH OF LANSDOWNE

Joseph G. Bartley, CPA, Finance Director

DEPARTMENT OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL

Mr. Fred Casella, Auditor

The results of the examination were presented and discussed in their entirety.



BOROUGH OF LANSDOWNE
DELAWARE COUNTY
LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND
REPORT DISTRIBUTION
FOR THE TWO YEARS ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2008

This report was initially distributed to:

The Honorable Allen D. Biehler, P.E.
Secretary
Department of Transportation

Borough of Lansdowne
Delaware County
12 East Baltimore Avenue
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The Honorable Sharon Coleman

President of Council

Joseph G. Bartley, CPA

Finance Director

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